

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [7946] 30M off to a good start
Message-ID: <199605010313.DAA02986@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Well, you should have been there.

Started out with hearing AL7 and jumped, but alas it was
CO. Worked MI then heard both sides of qso between W6BH
and WL7WH but WL7WH faded before I could get him.

The heard both sides of SD to HI qso (HI/QRP at 4W)
but too weak for me to get him, so went for the SD.

Now don't start worrying, you won't be getting daily
reports, just one to jump start the activity. Heard
CT, ME, and a few others also. The band wasn't too
bad, not real strong but workable.

And around 0200Z to 0300Z it will open and close,
so don't turn the big switch off just yet. Keep at
it, you can do it.

It's just the start as the band is starting to come
back from a long winter's nap.

dit dit es cul

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO Tmps 1996 Qs=004 States=04 Confirmed=00 DX=00
CO AZ MI SD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [7897] 80 and 30 meters in QRP events
Message-ID: <960430111134.242300f7@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

I've got a couple of questions about band activity.

First 30 meters. Many of us know that 30 is kind of rarely noticed jewel. In

fact Chuck is trying to stimulate activity on the band with his propagation study. I noticed that NORCAL listed 30 in its recommended frequency list. However, I listened and called CQ QRP TEST with poor results. The only contact I made as with one of my fellow club NJQRPeaNUTS on site. I didn't even hear any QRP activity on the band, only the crickets at the high end and ragchewers near 10.100.

Now 30 is off limits to "real" contests but not "operating events" (I think some guys even use it for ARRL FD). Are we reluctant to use it because of that, or simply too busy working other bands? Where was everybody? Is it another one of those "west coast" things?

Now 80 meters. An old wives' tale says that 80 is "too noisy" during the daytime. Balderdash! When there are no thunderstorms within a couple of hundred miles, 80 is a superb daytime band. Coverage is limited to a couple of hundred miles, but that's no real handicap. During WA3NNA's recent 80 meter beacon test, his 200 mw beacon was clearly copied over a large portion of the east coast. But during QTTF, several of us listened on 80 and even with ideal antennas, there was zero activity. Again, where was everybody?

Questioningly yours,

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com

home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: Steve Thompson AB7PF <kj7dn@primenet.com>

Subject: [7883] AB7PF/AM's Story (long)

Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.960429195054.7097F-100000@usr5.primenet.com>

Hi:

Well, a good time was had by all who participated in the AB7PF/AM "Aeronautical Mobile" operation. Surprisingly, all went on schedule, and we hit our targets (scQRPions, Riley, TriARC, and WB4ZKA) pretty much on time.

Our contacts consisted of (14) 40M CW QSO's and (30) 2M PHONE QSO's, for a total of 1,760 points. My primary goal was to show the extent to which QRP'ers will go to have some fun, and to turn at least one non-ham on to Amateur Radio. It looks like my goal was fulfilled!

HIGHLIGHTS:

- (1) Found a bunch of scQRPions in the western foothills of PHX ... but, they were the non-venomous type ... amazingly, they were "talking scQRPions" too! I can hardly wait to see the pix of the QRP rig with a Rattler next to it. Too bad they couldn't get a big ol' scorpion on top of the rig. I think Joe (KC7NEV) would be the only one crazy enuf to figure that one out!
- (2) Got to see some neat people at Riley, too (although they didn't look much bigger than those scQRPions we saw earlier in the flight, hi). Working furiously away at CW contacts back in the rear cabin, I suddenly had an incredibly booming sig follow up at then end of a QSO ... an ol' familiar call of K5F0. Since the sig was so strong, terrible thoughts passed thru my mind that Chuck was using an amplifier (pls forgive the use of such forbidden words as "amplifier"). These thoughts almost made me feel "airsick", but then it occurred to me that we were on top of them. Ahhhhhhaaaa! A quick glance out the port side window revealed a dry wash and a bunch of radio-crazy hams waving at us. Phew ... it was then that I knew that Chuck hadn't succumbed to such wicked ways. Then, I got to work the rest of the gang on phone. Very nice to hear voices of those who I have written to for so long! (especially you, Jay (WA5WHN))
- (3) Climbing out of Riley (after riding thru incredible turbulence ... oh, did I mention the *wind* at Riley?), I got to work the two "Riley absentees", KI6DS (Doug) and NA5N (Paul). I understand they created quite a disturbance at the meat counter to pull that one off!
- (4) Although we never got a visual on the TriARC group up at the Mogollon Rim, they sure got a visual on us! We worked several of them CW before sneaking up on them, and then got to do it again on 2M. Dave (AA7TQ) got his "Sky King" flyby, and Rich (N7XNL) got his annual flashing out of the way (nope, not with a trench coat ... with a mirror). We made several passes, and then headed south to home.
- (5) We nabbed Mike (WB4ZKA) and Larry (KG7WS) on our way down ... nice to chat with Mike after doing the e-mail thing! But, the ol' horse smelled the barn, and we lost them pretty quickly.
- (6) I happened upon Joe (KC7NEV) on CW as we headed home, and was completely suprised to find him by chance. Suddenly, fellow "Flying Elvis team member" Kent (AB70A) mentioned that it was time to put away the equipment ... we were on a one mile final for landing! I've never disassembled a shack in such record time.

A fantastic job was done by Ralph (woops, I meant "Stephen", KC7OMT) of monitoring 2M across the desert, working a whole lot of people, and

keeping us entertained.

TECHNICAL STUFF:

2M was performed by an ICOM W31A at 5 watts, precariously held up against the cabin windows as we made phone QSO's.

40M CW was done on a Kenwood TS-690 at 4.9 watts, auto antenna tuner, and a Bencher paddle. Commercial gear was chosen because I didn't want to destroy my HW-9 wise choice considering the incredible turbulence at Riley. Oh, did I mention the *wind* at Riley? Anyway, the Knwd survived the bouncing unscathed.

The HF antenna was a 22 gauge, 35 foot long wire out the back of the plane. The 2M antenna was a Diamond rubber duck (the REAL long kind).

The CW operations were made much easier by a donation, by Bose, of a set of noise cancelling headphones. Although intended for aviation, they matched the HF rig well. The little noise cancelling circuit req'd 12-24V, but it made the band sound like it does at home ... nice and quiet! (No droning hum of two 375 HP gear-driven engines just outside the cabin). Thanks, Bose.

The total flight time, non-stop, was 4 hours, 20 minutes.

THANKS (go to ...)

Jay and Paul ... fer encouraging such a great mission.

Ron (AB7LL) for making it possible, Doug (WB7TUJ) for such fine engineering and awesome navigation, Stephen (KC70MT) for phone and bag work, Kent (AB7OA) for his straight keying in turbulence, and JoAnne (A1MOM) for thinking of refreshments when I had more important things on my mind (like hamming).

Ground support crew -- scQRPions, Rileyans, TriARCans, and Kohl's Ranchers.

And, Len Winkler -- for having a super show on QRP.

Most of all, thanks to the hams for working us ... couldn't have done it without you.

73,

Steve - AB7PF/AM

P.S. For those of you who worked us, you can QSL to my callbook address. Please include an SASE 9x12 envelope for a certificate!

P.P.S. Doug - pix are on their way tomorrow via express!

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| Steve C. Thompson - AB7PF      ----- E-mail kj7dn@primenet.com
| Manager of Info. Technology  ----/---- steve@cpginc.com
| Continental Promotion Group  ----/H----
| Tempe, AZ, USA                H        Current Projects:
|                                H        Explorer II 40M, 40-40
|                                H
| 602.731.3535                   H        QRP-L #259  scQRPions #1
| 602.921.8825 X535              H        NWQRP #387  NorCal #1516
|
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: nskousen@scientech.com (Niel Skousen)
Subject: [7911] Audio FFT, Mac or PC
Message-ID: <v02130503adac04653c5c@[198.60.91.132]>

Not really a QRP question, but I'm having some difficulty finding software to do audio FFT (10-15kc be nice) either on a Mac or a PC w/ SoundBlaster.. Any advice or pointers ???

TNX Niel

Niel Skousen
nskousen@scientech.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "Lau, Zack, KH6CP" <zlau@arrrl.org>
Subject: [7900] Better Harmonic attenuation
Message-ID: <31863431@arrrl.org>

Besides adding more filter elements to a low pass filter, there are other ways of cleaning up a transmitter.

1. Shape the input drive, so that the output waveform

resembles a square wave. If you eliminate the second harmonic, filtering gets a bit easier.

2. Try a push pull output stage, which often reduces even harmonics.

3. Short out the 2nd harmonic of the output with a shorted quarter wavelength at the fundamental frequency.

4. Link couple the output (high Q bandpass filter). If the Q is high enough, you might not need a low pass filter to meet the -30 dBc FCC requirement. A LPF is still recommended to eliminate TVI. The stopband response of bandpass filters often leave a bit to be desired.

Zack KH6CP/1

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [7893] Contesting on 30
Message-ID: <9604301425.AA16598@voder.nsc.com>

I talked with a local ham last night. He reported that he heard N6ET on 30m, making contacts for the contest.

Not only was N6ET calling CQ 'TEST, but he was getting numerous responses.

=====
NCARC Superfest, June 1st, Larimer County Fairgrounds, Colorado
=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB miker@cc.com michael@frii.com
 http://www.frii.com/~michael
 QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [7926] Curing QRP+ AGC Thump
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960430201954.13a7510c@134.20.32.17>

After much experimenting, I have finally come up with a simple remedy for

the infamous QRP+ AGC "thumping" on strong signals. Yes, I know, you can flip in the 20dB attenuator. You can also add the RF gain control posted yesterday -- a good idea in any event. But in both cases the response to strong signals is not automatic, and the S-meter reading is affected. My cure consists of adding a simple limiter -- a total of four parts -- to the output of the audio filter. Since not everyone on this list has a QRP+, and probably less than 15% of those that do have any interest in modifying their rigs, I will not use up bandwidth with the details. If you are interested, let me know and I'll email the info to you.

By the way -- from postings I have seen regarding the QRP++, it appears that the AGC pumping problem may not as severe in the new model. I've looked at the schematic for the ++, and I'm not sure what would have made much difference (and as someone else mentioned, it is hard getting such info out of Index). Has anyone run a side-by-side comparison in order to quantify the difference, if any, in AGC response?

72, Larry W1HUE/7
LVE1@inel.gov

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [7899] Days Inn South
Message-ID: <1B0BD67CAF@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

I just cancelled my room for the big event in case you are looking.

72 de WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Bill Acito <acito@ultranet.com>
Subject: [7941] FW: QRPTTF Notes
Message-ID: <01BB36D8.B261A480@acito.ultranet.com>

From: Roger Hightower[SMTP:aa7qy@dancris.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 1996 1:58 PM

Subject: Re: QRPTTF Notes

wrote:

I'm sure you mean HP and not HB. HB is Switzerland, and is quite a catch for QRP. Might want to correct your log.

It's not so bad. I worked HB9B in the Helvetica contest an hour or so after QRP-TTF finished with 950mw, Norcal 40 and a dipole.

: -)

Bill Acito mail via acito@asdg.enet.dec.com Hudson, MA
KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: "Jon Iza" <iapizloj@biccc00.bi.ehu.es>

Subject: [7889] I hate acronyms!!!

Message-ID: <19960430092029116.iapizloj@bi.ehu.es>

Gang,

I do hate acronyms. Figure out I was browsing the QRP-L and found out QTTF among many other acronyms. I had to read it twice. After the thread on Q sigs, I thought of adding my two pesetas with several signals from the Air Force sparks they use to go on Junkers JU-52, keying with JU38 keys and asking for marks with gonios.

One of the Q's was QGG which meant "I've seen a good-looking girl", the G's coming from the gipsy (romani') word "gachi" for girl.

But the other one we (seldom) use -since is quite rough- is QTF. See? QTTF vs. QTF..... mmmm! sounds familiar.

In fact, you may get grosser using QTF UPL. No, I won't translate it here. E-mail me if you are not able to figure out the translation but it's ruuude!

So please, make me a favour. Use QRPTTF. Thanks ; -)

jon, ea2sn

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: dolsonj@ix.netcom.com (James Dolson)
Subject: [7928] Index Labs QRP+/- & TenTec Scout
Message-ID: <199604302044.NAA01112@dfw-ix10.ix.netcom.com>

Is anyone who has purchased either an Index Labs QRP+/- or a TenTec Scout (either 555 or 556) unhappy with their purchase?

I've got all the specs for both rigs and have weighed the differences in my mind, but would like to know if anyone is unhappy with theirs.

Hersay (sp?) is welcome too.

Thank you!

Jim
WB8ZBD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: wylde@nccn.net (P. Grover Cleveland)
Subject: [7904] LED Indicators for tuners?
Message-ID: <199604301629.JAA07373@nccn.net>

I seem to remember an article that used LEDs as indicators for for/rev power. Does anyone know where this might have appeared?

Grover
WT6P

* Grover Cleveland WT6P
wylde@nccn.net *
* Sr. Training Engineer
WT6P *
* Grass Valley Group/Tektronix
71213.2741@compuserve.com *

*

*

* "Sorry - Windows made me this way."

*

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "P. Grover Cleveland" <wylde@nccn.net>
Subject: [7945] LED Metering (request)
Message-ID: <199605010258.TAA14770@nccn.net>

Well now that many of you have helped me find the QST issue (thank you) in which the LED swr metering was described (June 95 p. 40), is there one of you who would mind snailing me a copy? Please?

I have exhausted the local sources here in the boondocks and I don't get QST. Any help greatly appreciated.

73

Grover
WT6P

20892 Bald Ridge Drive
Penn Valley, CA 95946

- - -

P. Grover Cleveland
WT6P
ARCI 3795 NorCal 216
Archaeoferroequinologist

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [7927] More 30M Contesting
Message-ID: <199604302041.0AA00393@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

My brief comment was not intended to sound like I was approving of contesting on 30M, but merely, where is the real horsepower to enforce it? The only known fact about 30M is "somebody somewhere says not to use it for contesting." Somewhere (WARC, FCC, ARRL) there must be a legal piece of paper describing the agreement. It should probably be found, posted, and let the wording speak for itself. That way, the true intent and spirit of the mandate can be known.

On the otherhand, if it is purely an ARRL gentleman's agreement, than the ARRL needs to enforce it through it's own PR, articles in QST, etc. But my point there is ... if the ARRL wants to enforce the 30M gentleman's agreement on no contesting, then they should also enforce the gentleman's agreement on CW and digital subbands, etc. Don't favor enforcing one gentleman's agreement over the other. And how would the ARRL ever enforce it anyway? If Official Observers are gonna send out their little blue cards (yeah, yeah, I got one once) for contesting on 30M, then they should send one to all the violations of the gentleman's subbands, the SSB broadcasters, the nightly nets who fail to yield to an existing QSO, etc.

LEGALLY, I doubt there is little anyone can do should a contest really be held on 30M. I would not want to see that, because the first LITTLE contest would open the floodgates for Field Day or such.

I would much rather see us QRPers exploit 30M by developing activities akin to the fox hunt, a Friday Night Special, a monthly QRP 2-hour blitz thing or something to encite activity, but not a full-blown contest. (Or a QRP contest where you HAD to exchange RST, name, full QTH with ZIP code, rig, antenna, wx and QSL info -hi).

And perhaps the real litmus test is this ... based on many of us just completing the QRP Afield ... would the availability of 30M have SIGNIFICANTLY improved your QSO count/score? Not counting the rule that you can work the same station twice on different bands, I don't think 30M would pick up a whole bunch of NEW guys to work. My opinion.

This was meant to be a friendly documentary. If you must flame, go ahead ... I still have enough sand on me from Riley, I'm probably at R-39 insulation. Did we mention the wind at Riley?

72, Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@amsat.org>
Subject: [7929] More 30M Contesting
Message-ID: <01I45PC7J1J6003899@ARWEN.UTHSCSA.EDU>

On Tuesday, April 30, 1996 3:41 PM, Paul Harden[SMTP:pharden@aoc.nrao.edu] wrote:

<snip>

>On the otherhand, if it is purely an ARRL gentleman's agreement, than
>the ARRL needs to enforce it through it's own PR, articles in QST, etc.

>But my point there is ... if the ARRL wants to enforce the 30M
>gentleman's agreement on no contesting, then they should also enforce
>the gentleman's agreement on CW and digital subbands, etc. Don't favor
>enforcing one gentleman's agreement over the other. And how would the
>ARRL ever enforce it anyway? If Official Observers are gonna send out
>their little blue cards (yeah, yeah, I got one once) for contesting on
>30M, then they should send one to all the violations of the gentleman's
>subbands, the SSB broadcasters, the nightly nets who fail to yield to
>an existing QSO, etc.

>

<snip>

>

>72, Paul NA5N

>

>

One simple solution is for the ARRL to invalidate an entrant who
has contest QSOs on any of the WARC bands. Not just disallow
the particular QSOs but disqualify the entire entry!

Kevin, WB5RUE
wb5rue@amsat.org

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: KR4GL@aol.com
Subject: [7882] More, along with: More "Non-Ham" Bands from the FCC
Message-ID: <960429234949_386368314@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Wireless Week magazine (free trade rag for PCS'ers, SMR'ers, pagers and
celular'ers) says interest is heating up in the 220 MHz narrow band FM freq's
for nationwide smart paging and dispatch.

Several manufacturers are proposing the auction of 220 MHz space for new
trunked mobile radio, dispatch and data networking.

We need to watch out. my rough calculation is that the 223-225 MHz ham band
is worth several billion dollars, based on auctions so far. Yes, that's
billions with a B and just for the 223-225 MHz band.

I know we don't like the stuff on TV nowadays. But I am, nonetheless,
adamant that the government should NOT auction off spectrum that broadcasters
will use for HDTV (now called ATV).

Broadcasters and hams (in reverse order) were the first ones into the "ether"
back before the new century.

Since amateur radio is a "personal" communications service and broadcasting is, by definition, transmissions "intended to be received by the general public," they are BOTH forms of SPEECH.

As such they are protected by the first amendment and the government has no more right to charge us for reasonable access than it does to, say, rent us the right to stand in the public thoroughfare and speak our mind.

Hey! These government guys and gals are getting giddy (great aliteration, huh?). They made so much for the deficit reduction through auctions so far that the draft 1997 budget from the Clinton white house had in it a provision to auction off the newly opened toll-free 888 long distance telephone numbers to the highest bidders. (Wireless Week magazine)

Someone has since pointed out that the government doesn't OWN "telephone numbers." What's next? Auctioning off newly opened Dewey Decimal numbers for use in catagorizing library books?

"What am I bid for '524.957832a through 624.967429c'? SOLD to Simon and Schuster, for \$1,534,675,000!"

Thanks for the bandwidth. Sometimes the people inside the Beltway make me laugh so hard I can't stand up.

72 de KR4GL
John Foote

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Dave Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [7901] My QRPTTF day out...
Message-ID: <31864731.739D@lan.nsc.com>

My first QRPTTF: I didn't really go in for it seriously, but had a great deal of fun anyway. It was a single operator effort. I set up a 40m only cw station in the National Semiconductor employee park (Santa Clara, CA) - it was a friend's birthday BBQ too, so I made a day out of the whole affair. I struggled to get my dipole strung up between trees. I didn't bring enough string to get it up any higher than 15 feet (mental note for next time - get a small crossbow and some fishing line!).

It was really great, sitting in the semi-shade of the lovely willow trees by the side of a small lake with just a hint of a breeze, making cw contacts every now and again - almost perfect, apart from the QRN bursts from a local commercial outfit (arc welder?) - the QRN was what

caused me to give up in the end, that, and the discomfort of the little "in the ear" type phones I was using (another mental note - bring the fully cushioned phones next time!)

Equipment:

Homebrew 40m version of Rick Campbell's High Performance CW Transceiver (November '95 QST) - output just under 1 Watt - built in Wilderness KC-1 keyer - Whiterook key - homebrew 40m dipole.

Oak Hills Research SCF-1A filter.

Oak Hills Research WM-1 wattmeter.

Total of 9 contacts (I told you I wasn't going in for it seriously!) so that gets me $9 \times 10 \times 4 \times 3 = 1080$ points! Better than NONE eh?

--

Dave Fifield

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| LAN Applications Manager      | KQ6FR      |  
| National Semiconductor Corp   | QRP-L #92   |  
| Moving and Shaping Information | Norcal #1486 |  
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>

Subject: [7933] Need 40-9er filter and sidetone info

Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960430221445.21a73b46@134.20.32.17>

I have been "appointed" (actually, I sort of volunteered) to put together a summary of mods for the infamous 40-9er transceiver for the July QRP Quarterly. If you have BUILT a WORKING side-tone oscillator or BUILT a BETTER output filter and HAVE NOT ALREADY POSTED the info on QRP-L and would like to share the info with QRP Quarterly readers, please email the info to me by this Friday (May 3).

I would also like info on WORKING mods to provide a transmitter offset that have not already appeared on QRP-L. Also any really unique or clever packaging schemes would be of interest. If you would like to send a photo, let me know by email.

I want info on what you have actually BUILT and have WORKING, not "why don't you try this..." sort of stuff.

Better get it to me before you leave for Dayton! (Unfortunately, I'll be sitting at home slaving away getting stuff ready for the July QQ while all of you are blowing your ham equipment budgets and having a great time... At least I won't have to explain to the XYL what all that "junk" is that

followed me back from Dayton!)

Thanks and 72,
Larry W1HUE/7
LVE1@inel.gov

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [7906] No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <960430123104_284114657@emout15.mail.aol.com>

Hi guys,

I am surprised and concerned that there was contest operating reported on 30m by participants in NC's to the Field. Concentrated competition (one or two days of contest style exchanges, whatever you call the activity) does not belong on the WARC bands (that includes 30m). This is by long standing and generally accepted gentlepersons' agreement. This agreement creates a haven on the WARC bands for non contesters to operate during the disruptive activity of some large contests, and otherwise a place for casual operating for those who find contest style contacts too short to be satisfying.

None of us operate every contest. There are always times we want to just make a QSO or two without getting into a contest, and that is why we hams agreed not to use WARC bands for these activities. For those who don't have the experience to know about this, well hopefully you know now. For those who do know better, you cannot call the NC TTF an "activity" and by changing the words, make it other than a contest. You can't change an elephant by calling it a mouse.

And it is, of course, not relevant that a contest is QRP, even though QRP stations generate less QRM by their nature. If we make an exception for QRP, we open the floodgates.

Now, I can distinguish a long-term activity like Chuck's casual 30m thing because it isn't a concentrated short QSO deal. Nobody is tearing off a signal report and quick exchange followed by a TU (TU = "thank you" for the non-contesters..) That really isn't a contest, and it doesn't disrupt the band.

I am not anti-contest. I work contests. Not all. And when I am not "in the contest" I really like having a place to go to operate casually while a contest is raging on. Please, guys, don't take contests into the WARC bands.

Preston WJ2V

PS I think the above was said nicely and without rancor. If you disagree

with the content, fine. Go ahead and say so. You gotta' right to your opinion. But keep your flames to yourself. I'm sensitive, especially when I am right. :-)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "j. w. thornton" <dub@iAmerica.net>
Subject: [7916] No contesting on WARC bands, please:
Message-ID: <199604301832.NAA21082@ns2.iAmerica.net>

BRAVO Preston!! A very fine job of saying something that badly needed saying. Of course not everybody is going to agree, but the WARC bands have been off limits (by gentlemen's agreement) from day one, and I would certainly not like to see that change.

Dub Thornton WA5YFY
dub@iAmerica.net
Minco, Ok.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [7907] No Zero Beat
Message-ID: <199604301710.LAA28361@lynx.csn.net>

Why do some signals have no noticeable zero beat on the 49'er and other direct conversion receivers?

72, Bob KI0G
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)
Subject: [7884] NorCal QTTF '97
Message-ID: <199604300407.VAA10195@dfw-ix1.ix.netcom.com>

Dear Fellow QRP Enthusists,

Let's hope that WU7F does not get burned out by compiling all of the logs, for the NorCal QTTF. Bob, if you need help, You have one volunteer from New Mexico. I would bet his postal delivery Person thinks he is some kind of rock star with a lot of fan mail.

My vote for most unusal site, '96, is AB7PF/AM & Air Crew. When Steve was talking to my Son, KB50ME, in Riley, they had passed over us @ over 12K feet. Steve KC70MT had said that the turbulence was buffeting the aircraft, and that they were tightening their seat belts, and starting their descent. Great pass from SE to NW over us, about 800 feet off of the deck. My admiration, of Steve's Dad's flying capabilities, is off the scale.

Now, as suggested, let's go out and find the most usual sites for the NorCal QTTF '97. The New Mexico Crew will probably divide up Roswell, Socorro & The Plains of St. Augustine & Corona, where alledgely, UFO's have landed or crashed. One side note, concerning the Roswell UFO crash, if You have been listening to W60BB lately, they alledgely have some debri from site. I think K5FO has Marfa, Texas. I have seen the light displays down there & they are amazing. I think it has something to do with piezo-electric activity, but I don't remember all of the details. I would bet some of the Colorado bunch would look at Salida & the San Luis Valley area. The New England Crew would probably find Salem, Mass. a very interesting place. I will try to get the Northern New Mexico QRP crew to operate from the St. James Hotel in Cimmaron, NM. Home of one of the most famous Ghost Stories, to date. Has something to do with the 13th room being locked up. Anyway, if You can not find a site, don't worry about it, claim You were abducted, and we can assemble a panel, and declare You a "weird" Individual. (Most of us are anyway.) We may have 2 Roswell's on the Air (W4QO). Both can claim bragging rights. The key element here is to have fun. Oh, if You are abducted & get to fly in a Saucer, of other than Earth origin, You win the contest, no questions asked, 1M bonus points. I think that is what we had figured out, right Paul ? There is a saying in the Southwest USA, "When the truth conflicts with the legend, print the legend."

Oh, July, '97 just happens to be the 50th anniversary of the alledged Roswell UFO Crash (Actually near Corona, NM). If You can find a Motel/Hotel within a 200 mile radius of Roswell, during that time, You will be very lucky. That is the suggested theme. Anyone else have a better idea ? If AB7PF/AM & Crew fly over us, and I don't see a familier standard Air Frame configuration, of Earth origin, Steve, would You mind landing it near us ?

Chuck, K5FO, when You go to Marfa, take a long a VLF receiver & antenna, plus a 3D magnetometer.

Looking forward to the ARRL Field Day, June 22 & 23 & the New England QRP AField, Sept. 21.

Did we mention the wind speeds in Riley ? ; -)

Have fun in Dayton, and don't forget, there will be some of us who will just have to hear about the good time @ FDIIM, via the QRP-L reflector.

72...Jay, WA5WHN/qrp
Albuquerque, New Mexico

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [7937] QRP Stuff
Message-ID: <960430195406_481729065@emout17.mail.aol.com>

Gang, I've got a couple of QRP items someone may be interested in:

- MFJ 16010 mini-tuner, very compact L-Network tuner, good shape, \$12.00
- Matching 3 Amp RF Ammeters, great for measuring balance in tuned feeders, \$10/pr.

Please include shipping. Thanks, Paul

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@telis.org>
Subject: [7943] QRP to the Field Rules & 30M
Message-ID: <3186C45C.2F1D@telis.org>

Guys, I have seen a huge amount of traffic go by on the inet and there is a misunderstanding here. NorCal sponsors the QRP to the Field. AS in all of our endeavors, it is done with volunteer labor. Bob Farnworth is in charge of the contest and he makes the rules. He who does the work, calls the shots. Bob ran the rules by me, and I thought that they were fine. We want to keep things simple, to have as few rules as possible.

If you will look on page 33 of the March issue of QRPP you will see the official rules that are printed there. Here is what the rules say about frequencies, and I quote, "Open to all radio amateurs, and all bands and both modes (SSB/FM and CW)." Period. There is nothing about suggested frequencies, nothing about 30 meters that I can see. NorCal did not envision that people would read that to mean that they could operate on the WARC bands. That was a mistake, but an honest one. We have learned and next year we will certainly correct it. But guys, we did NOT intend for there to be activity on the WARC bands.

I commented to Chuck Adams that it was wonderful to hear all of the QRP activity on the bands. I was extremely proud to see all of the

wonderful writeups on this list and the NorCal web page. But the last 24 hours has made me rethink the idea. NorCal does not nor has it ever knowingly promoted contest operation on the WARC bands. I apologize for the fact that some people think that we did.

Lets get off the subject and back to neat things, like operating reports, 49er mods, Dayton Weather, the new products that are going to be at Dayton. Arguing and backbiting and negative posts do nothing to promote the hobby. Let's get back in a positive mode.

Bob Farnworth has a ton of work to do if everyone sends in logs that sent in postings. HE is a volunteer, and HE did not intend to promote activity on WARC bands. 72, Doug
KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: N9DD@aol.com
Subject: [7944] QRP TTF - Great Fun!
Message-ID: <960430223632_481852331@emout15.mail.aol.com>

I wrote this and tried sending it last Saturday evening. For some reason, it never posted. Better late than never....

Well, I wasn't so lucky as to be able to get an "in the field" setup for the contest, but I had a ball operating from home. Conditions seemed pretty good throughout the day. I couldn't believe some of the LOUD QRP signals I heard. I gave out a bunch of honest 599 reports. This event was more laid back than most with lots of guys giving their name, NorCal numbers, etc. I like it that way.

I spent most of the day on 40 meters where I made 33 QSOs using my NorCal 40A.. I took a few jaunts up (or is that down?) to 20 meters where I made 6 contacts with an NN1G xcvr (the original from Jan '94 QRP Quarterly).

One humorous note - Most of us that operate in contests have occasionally been called by a station who doesn't realize that there is a contest going on. This happened to me this morning but this guy was one in a million. I had just finished a couple quick contacts when I got a call from a W2. I gave him quick RST and my state and sent BK

He came back with a quick report and NY and then went on to explain that his name was Pat, which was a great name for a guy who had spent so much time in Ireland. Yes, he had spent several years there touring with the famous Ray Knight band. I was hoping the guy would turn it over so I could explain about the contest, give a quick apology, etc. But this guy wouldn't quit! I QSY'd down the band and returned about a minute later to hear the same guy talking about how he had replaced the famous Tony Bennitt after he had left the band. Of course he wasn't as good as Tony, but wasn't a bad singer (as he explained

in nice, snappy CW). I chuckled a bit and tuned down the band, gave a few unanswered CQs and then started tuning again. The W2 was still at it! He was explaining about how, after he saw what the Germans had done in Poland, he enlisted in the service as soon as he got back home, and on, and on. I made a couple contacts on another frequency, tuned some more, only to find the W2 telling me about how now he was stuck in Rochester and didn't do any traveling anymore, etc., etc.

He finally turned it back to me by giving his call (perhaps he had forgotten mine) and saying "so how about it old boy?". I didn't know how to reply, turned off the rig, and only returned after most of an hour had gone by. I wonder if the W2 decided I wanted to listen to his story some more and started in again. :-)

Anyway, it was fun. Thanks to NorCal and all the good ears out there that made the contacts possible.

72,

Tom N9DD
QRP-L # 32

See you in Dayton!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: AlK0FRP@aol.com
Subject: [7888] QRP TTF K0FRP
Message-ID: <960430014628_386452750@emout13.mail.aol.com>

Rough day in Colorado. Got set up and going with help of Dick KB0SRY. 9AM with first QSO. OHR Classic and Full 40m loop up 35 ft. Things were good until about 2 pm and then the wind and cold front hit. 35 -40 gusts. My Tower(24FT plus mast) base legs kept sinking and had to keep shoring up the tower. One contact lens folded on me and I took out the contact and it blew away in the wind with the help of two new club members we found it and as I was putting it in my eye(after cleaning it campers style), it blew away again, for good. In the weeds GONE. So as a one eyed operator I continued up to about 3 pm. My tower was about 5 degrees off center and I had help at hand so the tower was let down. Six hours about 67 qso's 40 and 20m. Paul KF7MD operating KB0UCQ was still at it as I left the site at about 4 pm. 40m was good up to 10:30 am worked MS and AR at 10 AM. Had a 3 el beam for 20m but it did not go up, used the 40m loop fed with 450 ohm line, but it did well on 20m.

TOO much fun for one day. We will have to save the rest for Field Day in June. Watch out, plans are in the making for some good 40 and 80m antennas to keep the Q's going all nite.

73/72 A1 K0FRP
dit dit

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [7892] QRP Web Page
Message-ID: <199604301410.IAA22540@lynx.csn.net>

I have lost the address fro the QRP Web Page. Could someone help, please?

72, Bob KI0G
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [7895] QRP-L Server Commands?
Message-ID: <960430145158_75230.1405_HHB50-4@CompuServe.COM>

Can anyone tell me how to get a current list of QRP-L server commands?

I asked for the Help file but it is just for the server itself and
doesn't list the QRP-L specific ones.

Thanks...
73/72
Marshall
AA0XI/VK5FN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [7910] QRPTTF Notes
Message-ID: <199604301724.KAA24814@dancris.com>

Although I had earlier posted my QTTF results (acronyms for everyone), I noted some things to remember:

Carry spares! The NorCal 40A performed very well Friday, with some enjoyable QSO's, but died on switching it on Saturday morning. Fortunately I had a spare rig, or the weekend would have been a bust. Ditto the antenna. No problems there, but I have gotten out and put up an antenna only to have it fail..now I carry at least two of the wire types. Ditto for batteries. I took three charged gel cells, but one of them must be marginal....didn't work well at all. Luckily, I had spares.

Expect to make contact with anyone, anywhere. When HB1AC came in, I wasn't expecting to work any DX, and when he gave his loc as PA, I assumed Pennsylvania. Wrong. I finally figured it out (it WAS cold up there!). First QRP DX, and a great thrill for me.

Even if you don't know cw very well, or can't copy very fast, hang in there. I found at first that I had to listen two or three times to get the call, but as the day wore on, it became much easier. Very encouraging. Now if I could get my fingers to hit the paddles consistently, I'd be OK. Sorry for some of the many corrections I had to make, but it was cold.

Remember some of the operating techniques seen here on the list. I remember particularly a comment on tail-ending a QSO, and that's how I found Chuck K5F0. He was just finishing a contact when I called him, and got him. Only contact with the crew in Riley. I know it was windy, but was it COLD?

On another note, the NorCal 40A got cooked somewhere. Nothing obvious, just no audio and no xmit. I suspect a very strong adjacent signal (abt 90 watts) got into it. Is there some sort of limiting circuit to prevent this? I'm still troubleshooting, but it seems to be in the mixer/crystal filter area.

Had a great time, and can't wait for the next one in the fall. Meanwhile, I'll be on 30 trying to help Chuck with his propagation study.

73,
Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-1 271

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [7915] QRPTTF Notes
Message-ID: <199604301819.LAA25091@dancris.com>

Oops! I goofed. Didn't contact HB1AC, but HP1AC. Sorry for the typo.
73,
Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-1 271

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: kellner@usa.acsys.com (Richard G. Kellner)
Subject: [7886] QTTF
Message-ID: <9604300448.AA06893@usa.acsys.com>

I posted this late Sunday, and it appears that it was lost somewhere.
My apologies if it turns up twice ...

> To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
> Subject: QTTF
> Cc: kellner'
>
> I've never heard (nor worked) so many QRP stations at one time!
> 20m was the hot band here with continuous QRP QRM ... I love it. 10m
> was dead, and 40m was noisy but did get about 1/4 of my QSOs on 40.
>
> I thought about driving down to Riley, but too many other things that
> had to get done this weekend. I never heard any of you in Riley;
> guess we were too close.
>
> Got 22 QSOs, with 3 Canadians and Panama in about three hours. Worked
> as far as CT. Operated at the normal QTH with battery power. Called
> a lot more than I worked.
>
> 72/73, Rich W5RXP
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: bfollett@ditell.com
Subject: [7902] Revised St Louis Tuner Manual Errata --VERY LONG
Message-ID: <199604301615.KAA28356@orion.ditell.com>

Gang:

-----REVISED April 30, 1996-----

I finished the St. Louis Tuner, and it works great! The case is a piece of art. Everything fits perfectly! Thanks Doug, an outstanding effort.

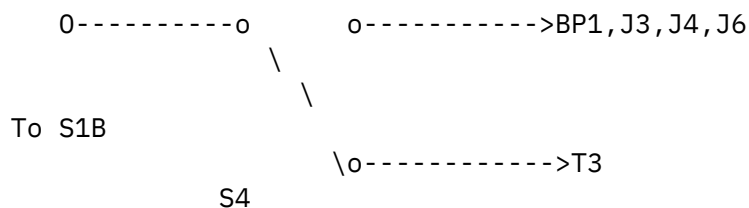
Now, My Revised, Final Manual Changes, with input from Doug, Chuck and Bob Kellogg, separated into Errors, Omissions, and Hints:

ERRORS:

1. Page 5, fifth line: D1 and D2 banded ends are towards C1 & C2, NOT the resistors.

>From Chuck:

2. S4 is not correct. It is used to switch between the Balun OR the BP1,J3-6 outputs. Both can not be active as wired. So the schematic should look like



3. From Doug Hendricks: "Dave Gauding, NFOR who was on the design team for the St. Louis tuner has discovered an error in the St. Louis Tuner Manual. The balun on the back panel should be wound with 12 turns, not 10 as specified in the manual. That was my error and I apologize for any inconvenience and all that stuff. Dave says it makes a big difference, so don't forget to change it..."

4. The schematic is missing the two ground connections on S2. The center position of the switch and the bottom of the inductor (lug 12) are both grounded (in the original St Louis Tuner design) . Mark your schematic, because the step-by-step procedures are wrong, in my opinion.

5. Page 7, 2nd column, third paragraph: "Cut a piece of wire that is 8" long" -- Don't waste wire, 6" is more than enough.

5. Same as 4, end of paragraph: "solder a #18 tinned bus wire 4" long to the first lug (the one that has the 1st tap on it). ALSO ADD:, solder a 4" long bus wire to the 12th lug, then connect and solder the other end to a convenient point on the previously installed 6" (Ground) wire coming off the center lug of the same switch. Reference # 3 above, why we are doing this.

6. Page 8, Step 2: This is in error, in my opinion. If you expect the tuner to work/look the same on the front panel as a commercial tuner, You want the inductor switch to start at the 9:00 o'clock position (tap 1, NO inductance) with small changes in inductance, ie., three turn taps, and end up with larger degrees of change, as you turn the knob CW, at the final switch positions at maximum inductance. This means lug 1, not lug 12, is connected to the capacitor frames. The 4" bus wire is ALREADY soldered to Lug one, so just shape it right, and connect & solder to the wire between the two caps. you just installed in Step 1. (You already fixed lug 12 in # 5, above).

OMISSIONS:

1. As Chuck pointed out, the K binding post (Red), is missing from figure 3, page 5.
2. Note that the F binding post (blk), needs a ground lug. Use one that came with the BNC connectors, and position the solder point at 12 o'clock.
3. Add the missing Step 19 to the manual: "Connect the bus wire from Switch 1, lug B to the center position of S-4, the Balanced/Unbalanced selection switch on the rear panel."

HINTS:

1. LABELING: Page 6 bottom diagram shows labeling for the 3-way Out, Tuner, Dummy Load spread across about 160 degrees. This switch only has a range of about 30 degrees. Therefore, I suggest you place all three labels on the left side of the knob, relatively close together, one over the next (Vertical alignment). The supplied knobs are so big, there is little room for calibration marks for the inductor and two vari-caps, so I left them all blank. You could use smaller knobs and then put numbers and alphabet on the panel. (If anyone wants, I'll e-mail my front and rear layouts in either native Coreldrw format, or .GIF. However, your e-mail must support MIME attachments!)
2. I mounted my PC board on the Left side with the dummy load resistors facing the front panel. That is one of many positions you could use, but it worked for me, and left a large area on the right side for ten big battery cells, should I feel the urge.

3. When soldering the bus wire to the rear panel connectors, use a high wattage iron! These are big heat sinks.

4. As Bob Kellogg pointed out, when winding the Main Coil, L1, page 4, make sure you wind it in a clockwise direction, as viewed from the 12 position s/w it will be eventually mounted to. The idea is to make sure that what becomes position 1 on the switch is the 1, 3, 6 turn/tap end, and position 12 is the 60 turn end. That way, the switch will function in a normal clockwise direction from no inductance to maximum inductance.

Don't twist the tap loops too tight, or they may break after you untwist, strip, re-twist and solder. (I didn't try to insert the taps into the switch lugs. It was much easier to keep them straight and lay them along side the length of the lugs, and solder)

5. Quoted from Chuck:

"Helpful hint on installation of the two caps and the nylon washers and screws. Place a cap on the desk with the shaft up. Place the three nylon washers over each of the three threaded holes. Now with all the eye-hand coordination you can muster lower the front panel over the cap and align the holes before the panel contacts the washers. Then with a free hand install each of the three nylon screws. If things shift a little, a small screwdriver gently can be used to align the washers back to where they belong."

"After you GENTLY tighten the screws you'll find, as Doug mentions, that the screws coming out of the bracket of the cap will obstruct the rotation of the plates."

"Here is what I did. I hate putting any sharp object between rotating plates and the front panel. The potential for me to mess something up is too great. So, note how much of the screw extends into the cap area. Remove ONE screw and using either an Exacto Knife (my favorite) or a single edged razor blade (kids and razor blades and sometimes adults don't mix) remove just a little bit of the screw and put it back in. Check your work. Now do another ONE. Don't get in a hurry and do only one at a time. Make sure that the washer does not move or drop out during this procedure. Worked for me, and worked well, if I do say so myself..." (Test your final work with an ohmmeter. The cap frames sh/be isolated from the front panel... Bob)

6. I ran out of # 18 bus wire using the suggested lengths in the manual. I then substituted #18 stranded/insulated wire, and found it was superior to use for connections to the front switches from the PC since, as Doug pointed out, it is difficult to make the two switch connections when both the front panel and PC board are in place. (It helps if you don't screw in the front panel, but rather, put it into the case and tilt it forward while soldering).

7. Quoted from Chuck Adams: "Now, this is just my idea and all you antenna wizards, and ATU (antenna tuning unit) gurus can tell me if I'm wrong.

C5,C6,C7, and C8 are the four sections of the two dual-gang variable caps. C6 and C8 being the 15-73pF small sections and C5 and C7 being the 17-165pF caps. As marked in schematic on page 10 of the manual.

My preference would be to have the smaller sections in all the time and the larger sections switched out. My logic behind this is that with only the smaller sections in I have a greater control over small variations with larger angular movement in the dials and the smallest value would be 15pF. With the smaller sections in place of (now labeled C5 and C7) the inline at all times sections then I can have 15-73pF on the single section inline vs. 17-165pF with having the larger sections inline and the smaller sections switched in/out".

(I, Bob, have used the tuner on a balanced 1/8th wave DCTL loop, a end-fed random, and unbalanced 40M horz. loop, and find the "normal" switched arrangement works well for what I have encountered so far--We will have to wait for a report from Chuck or someone else who tries his suggested arrangement).

8. Note that while the manual only refers to 4 lugs on the two vari-caps, there are really eight. The important thing to remember on page 8, steps 3 to 6, is that A & B(the larger variable plates) are the lower/closest to the front panel lugs, and there are also two more lugs under the one's labeled C & D in Fig. 7. You can connect the switch wires to either set. The same goes for the upper (away from the front panel) four lugs labeled C & D.

If the above seems confusing, look closely at one of the vari. caps, and you will see that the fixed plates have insulated lugs at each end of the frame. (the frame is connected to the rotating plates) There are two sets of fixed plates, one with fewer plates than the other. The larger set is, when mounted to the front panel, closest to the front panel.

9. Note that in step 13, you are connecting BOTH Point A and Lug 12 of Switch 2 to the ground lug on the rear panel. (Big wattage iron again). Yes, the tuner will work without grounding either/both, but "normal tuner convention" is to ground both to keep RF under control. According to our qrp-l tuner authority, LB Cebik, at QRO levels, arcing can occur if both points are not grounded.

THAT's IT -- This list will be updated if any other changes/enhancements are discovered.

This document can also be found on the NorCal Web Page thanks to Jerry Parker,

WA6OWR.

<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

73, Bob

Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: RHILT0@acxiom.com
Subject: [7921] Re[2]: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <18659260@acxiom.com>

Alan Kaul, W6RCL said:

>...there must be a haven which is exempt from contests. Make that
>have the WARC bands.

>But when the members of a small group like Norcal (fewer than 2000
>members) want to sponsor a contest which runs 12-hours in length, I
>can't see what the big deal is...

How can you plead for contest-exempt WARC bands in one paragraph, then
turn around and suggest that the same bands be available for contesting?

>...there is no finer band ... than 30 meters, because ... 3) the
>propagation characteristics are terrific!

Doesn't this mean that a "small" contest in one area will likely spill
over onto those who want a contest-free band?

>...but better use of 30M during QRP operating events IS INTENDED.

Absolutely. Now, who will set the threshold for defining a "small
group"? Anybody know how many entries were submitted for last year's
ARRL Sweepstakes? (either mode, approximately?) I bet you could find
several testers who would argue that Sweepstakes is a "small"

contest (not world-wide, one mode at a time, only a "few" big guns, etc etc.)... once you open the gates for one group, you'll never get the mess cleaned up.

7.3, ki5ez
Bob

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [7890] Riley QTTF
Message-ID: <960430091332.242300f7@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

Considering the conditions (did someone mention *wind*) at the Riley site, it's no wonder it's a ghost town. The former inhabitants probably blew away!

BTW, didn't hear you guys here on the east coast, but one of the NJQRPeaNUTS did, N2CQ. Of course he also worked VO1DRB who I never heard either.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@telis.org>
Subject: [7887] Riley, NM QTTF Report (Long)
Message-ID: <3185A675.736D@telis.org>

Here is my report on a fabulous weekend trip to Riley, New Mexico to operate QRP to the Field and to meet in person the New Mexico QRP group. Last year, Paul Harden, NA5N and a hardy group of QRPers from the Socorro/Albuquerque area went to a campground at 7200 feet and fought snow drifts to get there. I was intrigued at the pictures that they sent, and thought to myself that I would love to meet these guys who would brave elements like they did to operate QRP.

This spring, Paul and Jay Miller, WA5WHN announced to the QRP-L that they were going to operate from Riley, which was a famous New Mexico ghost town, and they encouraged other groups to operate from historical places. It was a great idea, and one that we want to encourage next year, but we will pick a different theme. One that has been suggested is "Weird Places", or sites of strange events. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of the Socorro UFO incident, so I know that Paul and the gang will have a great site!

When I found out that they were going to go to a ghost town, I was able to drop a couple of subtle hints, and all of a sudden, I had an invitation. So, Friday, right after school, I hopped in the white Toyota pickup and drove to Oakland where I caught a SouthWest Airlines flight to Albuquerque via LAX and arrived in the "Land of Enchantment" at about midnight. When I walked off the plane, I was greeted by K5FO, Chuck Adams, who no longer wears the moniker, "No Show". He has redeemed himself. Five minutes later, Jay Miller and his son, Jason picked us up at the front door of the airport and we were on our way.

Riley is about an hour and a half south of Albuquerque, but the problem is that the last 40 miles or so are by dirt road, and I mean rough, twisty, dirt road. You don't want to take Mama's car out to Riley. We finally arrived at 2:00 AM, with both Chuck and I almost green from being car sick. We rode the last 10 minutes with the windows down, and I certainly appreciated the fresh air. Finally we saw the camp and we were in Riley. When we stepped out of the car we were greeted with a hissing sound which were not one but two tires going flat!! We decided to change them in the morning and get to bed.

Paul had brought a nice big cabin tent for Chuck and I complete with sleeping bags. But, these New Mexico QRPers must be tougher than I am, because they sleep on the ground, literally. NO Air Mattresses!! I was exhausted from the trip, and promptly fell asleep. I woke up about an hour later and realized that I still had my glasses on. So, I took them off and layed them beside me. Sometime in the middle of the night I rolled over and smashed them, breaking the part that holds the lenses in the frames. I am almost blind without my glasses, so the trip was getting off to a famous start.

The next morning we got up and Paul and I decided to take the flat tires from Jay's Explorer into Magdeleno and get the tires fixed, plus we would try to find someone to fix my glasses. We got the tires fixed, but the eyedoctor was out of town, so we drove over to the VLA and used their facilities to fix the glasses. Well, sort of. On the way back we stopped at the store to buy steaks and tortillas for dinner and as Paul went into the store, I stayed outside to listen for AB5PF/AM who was due to arrive and fly over Riley. Almost the second Paul walked into the store, I heard Steve calling CQ. I answered and he heard me. Talk about exciting. Here were 3 hams who were operating QRP to the Field from an airplane. I rushed into the store, hollering, "Paul, Paul, come quick. I got the guys in the airplane, but they are heading back and are just about out of range."

Paul, had about 6 or 7 packages of steaks in his hands. The butcher was advising him on which steaks were the best. Paul, who was very cool, said, "Hey, be right back gotta go." He dropped the steaks and he and I literally ran out of the store. The butcher was left staring in disbelief.

Paul worked Steve and we were sorry that we missed the flyby, but we did get to work them. Then Paul went back into the store and tried to explain what happened to the butcher as he picked up the steaks again. I watched the butchere and he was shaking his head and giving both of us strange looks as we headed towards the checkout counter.

We then headed back to Riley where Paul and I got to operate. Tom, WB5QYT had brought his popup camper and his Icom 706 for us to operate. I went first, and I worked my second contact, W7PU, who was running a special events station from a Titan missile site. He gave me a 5 and 3 but said that I sounded strong for a QRP SSB station. My third qso was with WA0NXZ in the novice portion of 40 meters. Paul was in Denver and gave me a 579 for my 3 Watt signal. I then turned the rig over to Paul, and he really racked up the qsos, working 25 or 30 in rapid succession.

Tim Pettibone, AB50U was the champion operator, as he worked 80 qso's in about 8 hours. He was hard at it the whole time, and he is a fine operator. Tim's wife Jan helped with the duping and logging.

Chuck, K5F0, worked 38 stations, and was able to run 18 qsos in the first 15 minutes of the test. But then the elements must have gotten to him, as he was thoroughly trounced by Tim, who can lay claim as Number One Riley Op.

Other operators who were at the site were Gary, K8BI, Jim K5QQ, Howard, K9PV, Brian, N5ZG6 (age 16), and Jason KB5OME, (age 17) who was the first to work the flyover group from Arizona.

Towards evening the wind really started to howl, with gusts of 50 to 60 mph and dust and dirt everywhere. Chuck and I convinced the group to return to civilization as we did not relish the thought of another night in the wind. Besides, both of our tents were damaged, and if we went to town, we could take a "SHOWER" which really was appealing to me. We cooked the steaks and the tortillas, and then broke camp to return.

QRP to the Field was great. I met and made several new friends, and had a wonderful time. Jim Cates is right. QRPers are a special breed, and they are the nicest and most polite group left in ham radio. I can't wait til my next trip to New Mexico, as I want to return and have some more fun with Paul, Jay, Tim and all the guys. Thank you.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Bill Acito 30-Apr-1996 1644 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>

Subject: [7932] Rochester NH, NE-QRP, and AO-27
Message-ID: <9604302057.AA23020@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Somebody pick an obscure 2m simplex frequency for the QRP-NE members to congregate on at the Rochester, NH (Hosstraders) flea. For you non-New Englanders, this is a 'big' flea, almost big enough to satiate those of us not going to Dayton.

. . .

I will be there on Saturday with table, but I'm planning to bring my portable QRP AO-27 set-up, and will run a demo for anyone interested; contact me on the above calling frequency, or look for the stacked 11 ele 430 beams on a tripod. Besides walking the flea, there will be a nice mid-Atlantic pass (possibly working Europe) at 10am, an overhead at 11:40, and a westerly at 1:20 local. New Hampshire hasn't been on the bird in a while, so there could be some nice activity.

This is in tribute to Doug Quagliana, KA2UPW, who performed the same demo at a recent QRP-NE meeting at ARRL Headquarters (see your most current issue of '72'), and got me going on this little endeavor (I'll get you Doug :-). Hopefully, I can spread the bug to a few others. See my latest stats in the footer.

Bill

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito

acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-l ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

Listen for me on weekend and weekday lunchtime passes of AMRAD-OSCAR 27
(31 NA Grids, 3 EU, and 21 States Worked from FN42, most with 5w)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [7891] TMPS
Message-ID: <199604301328.NAA01439@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

It's less than twelve hours to the start of the 30M propagation study. I've noted that 30M is staying open past 0400Z here.

If you want to participate, just get on 30M and have QSOs. No contest exchanges and no time limits, so have fun.

I have in my signature a line with my call, TMPS in caps and some info. If you use that format and put your call starting in the first column and the TMPS in the position indicated, I can go back through the archives and collect stats occasionally to see how we are doing. TMPS - Thirty Meter Propagation Study (yet another acronym).

At Dayton and afterwards you will see two graphs that I have created from my data from last year.

Consider plotting the following:

1. A histogram of the number of contacts made in 200 mile increments from zero to several thousand miles or we can switch to km if the rest of the world wants it that way.
2. Plot distance of a contact in the vertical axis and the time of the contact on the horizontal axis. Make the scale of the horizontal axis for 0000Z to 2400Z. I found this to be interesting.

Film at 11.

Stats only to be accumulated from 0000Z May 1, 1996 until 2400Z August 31, 1996. Of course we can get other parts of the year, but this is just for the purpose of a four month period.

Someone else can gather the data (even on a daily basis) for the solar data.

dit dit es gl

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=000 States=00 Confirmed=00 DX=00

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: Kelly <kelman@dialnet.net>

Subject: [7938] Triton IV Good gor QRP?

Message-ID: <199605010006.TAA10844@shell.dialnet.net>

Hello all,

I have noticed that there are a lot of Ten Tec Triton IV rigs out there for sale.

Does this make a good QRP rig? Anyone out there use this one for QRP?

I don't suppose there are any Argosy's or Argonaut 515 rigs floating around out there?

Please Email me with your comments. Thank you.

Kelly - WB0WQS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: AE0Q / V31RY <v31ry@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [7885] Wyoming QRP-TTF Expedition
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960429222026.378f04dc@ix.netcom.com>

QRP-To-The-Field in Wyoming:

Brian N0TBM and I left Denver at 3:30AM Saturday, heading for parts unknown west of Cheyenne. We took Highway 210 west off I-25, through Curt Gowdy State Park, on into the Medicine Bow National Forest. Neither of us had been in this area before, so we were just winging it. About 30 miles from the Interstate we found a good looking place. No 4-wheeling (Brian was following in a little car), but up a dirt road for about 1/2 mile, to a hilltop with trees and a few camping spots. Watched a nice sunrise, took a break after driving 150 miles..

We set up in my camper on a knoll at 8100 ft. Put a 1/2 size G5RV 30ft up in the trees, aimed east/west. It was nice to be away from big-city radio noise, and the horizon was below us in almost all directions. Great spot for a qrp contest!

We wanted to be on the air at the 1300Z start of the contest, but it took a while to untangle the antenna ropes. Then my new sling-shot-launcher made the lead sinker go through a tree without taking the fishing-line with it, so Brian just heaved the rope-on-a-rock as high as he could! Got going at 1345Z on 40m, working stations from Michigan to the West coast.

After an hour we switched to 20m, and the pace picked up. Most stations were sending 'honest' signal reports, and the East coast was booming in. Heard a loud French station, but didn't try to work him. We went back to

40m once for a half-hour around noon, and were surprised to work a number of stations in NM, UT, ID, AZ and CA. In 9 hours we made 110 QSO's running 5w on 40m and 20m, working 32 states and 3 provinces.. Best 8 hours was 97 Q's. Things sure were hopping considering the lousy propagation!

The station was a TS-450s/AT xcvr, MFJ-949E tuner, memory-keyer, and a Bird wattmeter (for 5w power settings). Ran off my Field Day deep-cycle-Marine battery. The first thing Brian noticed was the total lack of background noise (he also has a TS-450S). We signed /7 and had mini pileups at times, and a number of folks added "TU WY", even though there were no multipliers for different states worked. I hope we helped with a few QRP-WAS!

I was planning to stay till Sunday, but at noon it started to snow, blowing horizontally from the north. It turned into a real blizzard in a few hours! Neither of us wanted to drive in that WX after dark, so we quit at 2300Z. Both of us got soaked hauling down the antenna and throwing cables in the camper!

Overall it was lots of fun. This was Brian's second CW contest, and his code speed was between 25 and 30 wpm at the end of the day; contests are great for pumping up your receiving speed! We worked lots of East and West Coast stations, even on 40m; I'm sure our good location helped a lot. It would have been nice to spend the night, but I guess this April was too early for camping in the Wyoming mountains! I'll be back there for another QRP contest, hopefully in nicer weather.

73 -- Glenn NorCal #1417, CQC #174

The U.S. Navy: It's more than ships at sea, it's CT's T.A.D. !

AE0Q / V31RY	ex: GM5BKC, ZB2WZ, SV0WY, WA0VPK
v31ry@ix.netcom.com	-- ARRL LM, QCWA LM, NCVA --

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [7909] re :No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <1864bd60@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

thank you preston
very well said.
73 cu on 30
barry
wb1edi

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [7903] re: Better Harmonic attenuation
Message-ID: <9604301617.AA10215@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: Better Harmonic attenuation

Zack wrote:

> 1. Shape the input drive, so that the output waveform resembles a
> square wave. If you eliminate the second harmonic, filtering gets
> a bit easier.

My only concern with squaring up the output drive has to do with the quality of the received CW note. You've all heard 'em. Harsh and clicky. Listener fatigue becomes even more of a problem when the signal you're listening to is overly harsh. My sorry ears just can't hack this kind of signal for very long at all. The other problem with this approach is the generation of key clicks on either side of the transmitted signal. While Zack's comments on better harmonic attenuation are certainly all technically correct and valid suggestions, I'd stay away from this one just to maintain peace on the bands.

> 3. Short out the 2nd harmonic of the output with a shorted
> quarter wavelength stub at the fundamental frequency.

This is commonly done on stripline boards, but is probably a bit unwieldy on 40 meters.

Thanks for the suggestions, Zack.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE Electrical Design Engineer
(H) 817-321-2960 Texas Instruments, Inc.
(W) 214-462-6230

QLF@MSG.TI.COM

WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)
Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [7905] re: Better Harmonic attenuation
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.830881553.11311.myers@bigboy>

> From: Brad Bradfield QLF
>
> Subj: re: Better Harmonic attenuation
>
> Zack wrote:
>
> > 1. Shape the input drive, so that the output waveform resembles a
> > square wave. If you eliminate the second harmonic, filtering gets
> > a bit easier.
>
> My only concern with squaring up the output drive has to do with the quality
> of the received CW note. You've all heard 'em. Harsh and clicky. Listener
> fatigue becomes even more of a problem when the signal you're listening to is
> overly harsh. My sorry ears just can't hack this kind of signal for very
> long at all. The other problem with this approach is the generation of key
> clicks on either side of the transmitted signal. While Zack's comments on
> better harmonic attenuation are certainly all technically correct and valid
> suggestions, I'd stay away from this one just to maintain peace on the bands.

I believe Zack is referring to the waveform of the carrier used to drive the PA, not the envelope of the CW keying. However, for this to work effectively, you'd need to key the power supply line to the PA, which some (many?) QRP designs already do.

Dana
Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Charlie Lofgren <clofgren@benson.mckenna.edu>
Subject: [7931] Re: Curing QRP+ AGC Thump
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.960430135935.55410B-1000000@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>

Larry,

I'd like to see your QRP+ mod for the thumping problem.

Thanks in advance.

72/73,

Charlie, w6jjz
clofgren@benson.mckenna.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: mizrahi@svlhp8.scs.philips.com
Subject: [7917] Re: improved 40-9er filter
Message-ID: <9604301841.AA09731@svln20.scs.philips.com>

Mike WA8MCQ has done a great job on filter synthesis and analysis.
He proposed a new 3-element output filter for the 40-9er and I'm
sure he'll publish a detailed article in the future, not to be
missed!

I was just interested in the comparison between this new filter and
the one that Alan Kaul has tested some time back.
The circuit simulation results show that this new filter is amazingly
better!

I hope someone can run this on a spectrum analyzer and publish the
actual results but I have no doubt they'll be much better than the
older filter or the original 40-9er filter, yielding more output power
and a much better harmonic attenuation.

So, for the time being, let's declare it as the "king of filters"!!!
Well, at least for the 3 element pi configuration...

The simulation results are as follows:

filter 1: 1300pF-0.68uH-1300pF (proposed by Mike)
filter 2: 470pF-1.5uH - 470pF (see Alan Kaul's posting)

Power output (filter 2 used as a reference):

	Rs=50	Rs=65	Rs=100
filter 1	0	-0.3dB	-1.0dB
filter 2	0	0	0

2nd Harmonic Attenuation (dB from fundamental):

	Rs=50	Rs=65	Rs=100
filter 1	-23	-24	-25
filter 2	-13	-14	-16

3rd Harmonic Attenuation (dB from fundamental):

	Rs=50	Rs=65	Rs=100
filter 1	-35	-35	-37
filter 2	-24	-26	-28

Notes:

- (1) The molded inductor of filter 1 is smaller and has less resistance than the one in filter 2. This may cancel the output power differences. If you wind toroids, then you may be losing some power with the new filter if you have a low drive to the final.
- (2) In general, the harmonic attenuation of the new filter 1 is about 10dB better than filter 2.
- (3) Comparing the measured results of filter 2 by Alan Kaul to simulation, expect a slightly better harmonic attenuation than simulated for filter 1, probably in the order of -30dBC for the second harmonic and -40dBC for the third (who needs a 5 element filter?!)
- (4) A standard inductor value of 0.68uH was used (instead of the optimal value of 0.69uH) with minor differences.
- (5) I haven't run sensitivity analysis on component values.

An excellent improvement, Mike!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
 From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
 Subject: [7930] Re: More 30M Contesting
 Message-ID: <9603308308.AA830897737@mail.creo.bc.ca>

The contest-free nature of the WARC bands dates back to when they were first created as shared bands. At the time, mainly because of their size, and partly because of stuff that was already in them, the IARU decided not to have contests there. This remains IARU policy to this day, and I've never heard of any member societies who don't go along with it. It certainly appears to be RAC, ARRL, RSGB, REF and DARC

policy - I've seen the bandplans.

Laura Halliday VE7LDH	"C'est une femme mutine, assez
lhalliday@creo.bc.ca	elegante, grave et legere, ayant le
ve7ldh@amsat.org	sens du confort et du plaisir
Locator: CN89mg	en tout." - C. Deneuve

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [7936] Re: More 30M Contesting
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960430193858.13639A-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Paul's comments on contesting on 30 meters were interesting. A common thread was what OTHERS might do to us, for example, the 00s or those who might do something in a legal vein.

A gentleman's agreement (which should be updated to a gentleperson's agreement) concerns not what others will do, but what I--as a party to the agreement--will do. I, for one and only one--the only one for whom I can speak--shall not contest on 30 meters. As a courtesy to others who expect a contest-free band, I shall not participate in any activity I view as contesting. I shall not define a contest, because that would look like I am trying to impose my view on others. Rather, I shall simply not participate in any activity on 30 (or 17 or 12) that I believe numerous others might view as contesting. No one will know, since I shall not advertise my absence from the activity--because my object is not to act LIKE a gentleman for public view, but to be--as best I can--a gentleman--because that is how I believe amateur radio should be.

Even if every ham in the world tried to be a gentleperson, there would still be differences among us, as we draw certain lines in slightly different places. But in all cases, our concern should be FOR others, not protection FROM others. Incidentally, of all the groups with whom I have been associated, none better deserve the title of gentlepersons than QRPers--even if "gentleperson" is such an ungainly word to use in a compliment.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>

Subject: [7913] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960430101939.19307A-100000@crl13.crl.com>

I agree it makes no difference if you run 1 microwatt or 1500 watts PEP, No contests on WARC bands. This hobby should be one of gentlemen and ALL should honor the gentlemen's rules to keep contests OFF of WARC bands. I hate to see NorCal and QRP-L as leaders in bring contests to the WARC bands.

de stan ak0b

On Tue, 30 Apr 1996 PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

> Hi guys,

>

> I am surprised and concerned that there was contest operating reported on
> 30m by participants in NC's to the Field. Concentrated competition (one or
> two days of contest style exchanges, whatever you call the activity) does not
> belong on the WARC bands (that includes 30m). This is by long standing and
> generally accepted gentlemen's agreement. This agreement creates a haven
> on the WARC bands for non contesters to operate during the disruptive
> activity of some large contests, and otherwise a place for casual operating
> for those who find contest style contacts too short to be satisfying.

> None of us operate every contest. There are always times we want to just
> make a QSO or two without getting into a contest, and that is why we hams
> agreed not to use WARC bands for these activities. For those who don't have
> the experience to know about this, well hopefully you know now. For those
> who do know better, you cannot call the NC TTF an "activity" and by changing
> the words, make it other than a contest. You can't change an elephant by
> calling it a mouse.

> And it is, of course, not relevant that a contest is QRP, even though QRP
> stations generate less QRM by their nature. If we make an exception for QRP,
> we open the floodgates.

>

> Now, I can distinguish a long-term activity like Chuck's casual 30m thing
> because it isn't a concentrated short QSO deal. Nobody is tearing off a
> signal report and quick exchange followed by a TU (TU = "thank you" for the
> non-contesters..) That really isn't a contest, and it doesn't disrupt the
> band.

>

> I am not anti-contest. I work contests. Not all. And when I am not "in
> the contest" I really like having a place to go to operate casually while a
> contest is raging on Please, guys, don't take contests into the WARC bands.

>

> Preston WJ2V

>

> PS I think the above was said nicely and without rancor. If you disagree
> with the content, fine. Go ahead and say so. You gotta' right to your

> opinion. But keep your flames to yourself. I'm sensitive, especially when I
> am right. :-)
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [7918] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9604301137.A7744-0100000@netcom15>

I AGREE that the MAJOR contests should not be on the WARC Bands, but I
DISAGREE when it comes to small groups ''doing their own thing.''

Look at it this way: the weekend of the CQ WW, or the ARRL DX, or Field
Day, or whatever, there must be a haven which is exempt from contests.
Make that have the WARC bands. No problem.

But when the members of a small group like Norcal (fewer than 2000
members) want to sponsor a contest which runs 12-hours in length, I can't
see what the big deal is with people who don't want them to be on
30-17-or-12 meters. It's not the CQ World Wide, there are plenty of
havens where non-contestors can find operating room during the Norcal
event AND NOT JUST ON THE WARC BANDS.

In addition, I personally believe there is no finer band for QRP contests
than 30 meters, because 1) there is no SSB, 2) there is a power
limitation for EVERYONE using the band, 3) the propagation
characteristics are terrific and it seems to be open much of the time
to somewhere or another!

Flames not intended.... but better use of 30M during QRP operating
events IS INTENDED.

Best 72/73 de alan

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [7919] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <199604301908.MAA25331@dancris.com>

As has already been seen in the use of supposed cq/qrp calling frequencies, "gentlemen's agreements" are generally honored in the breach, not to mention a lack of consistency worldwide, i.e., what is a calling frequency for one mode in one area may not be for the same mode in another area.

I too would like to have a portion of the band to work in with little QRM and power restrictions, but I also recognize the need for someplace to operate when I, and others, don't want to get entangled in contest exchanges. I made a couple of contacts during QTTF with non-contesters, and, while there was no pressure to amass a great score, didn't really want to rag chew with those not operating in the event (not a contest, right?).

So, like everything else, there are two sides to the story, and we ain't gonna solve it here.

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-l 271

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [7920] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <199604301916.PAA101307@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>Hi guys,

>

> I am surprised and concerned that there was contest operating reported on
>30m by participants in NC's to the Field. Concentrated competition (one or
>two days of contest style exchanges, whatever you call the activity) does not
>belong on the WARC bands (that includes 30m). This is by long standing and
>generally accepted gentlepersons' agreement. This agreement creates a haven
>on the WARC bands for non contesters to operate during the disruptive
>activity of some large contests, and otherwise a place for casual operating
>for those who find contest style contacts too short to be satisfying.

I sort of agree and sort of don't. First, the thing that keeps the contestants off the WARC bands is not a gentleman's agreement between hams, but an agreement between the committees that write the contest rules. If CQWW were to amend the rules to allow WARC operation, I don't think politeness alone would isolate the bands. So if a rules-making committee, be it ARRL CAC or QRP-L members, allows WARC operation, then there's no reason it should not occur.

Second, as far as a safe haven for non-contesters goes, well, of course no

ham has prior right to a frequency, let alone a band -- BUT even more so, there seem to be many who are not inclined to move to the WARC bands when contest time rolls around. The SSTV crowd still blasts anyone who dares contest on "their" frequency. The 75-Meter nets never seem to be able to take a night off during contest season.

So not all gentlemen agree to the gentlemen's agreement -- at least not on the non-WARC side. And although I wouldn't want to hurt Preston's tender feelings, I don't think he's "right" (not that I believe there *is* a right answer here.) I wouldn't really extend myself to encourage a rules committee to keep the WARC bands clear of contesting. Especially QRP contesting frequency agility can be key to not getting stomped on.

>>>==>PStJTT

```
=====
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KC1TD  TMPS 1996 Qs=000  States=00  Confirmed=00  DX=00
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [7923] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <960430152915_525141784@emout17.mail.aol.com>

Hi Alan,

Well, finally someone who doesn't agree with me. (You are, perhaps one out of ten, but that's no proof of who's right, of course. On the other hand, it does make me feel better!)

>I AGREE that the MAJOR contests should not be on the WARC Bands, but I
>DISAGREE when it comes to small groups ''doing their own thing.''

No. Little groups do not have the privilege of making special rules for themselves. If the agreement is not to have contests on WARC bands because we want a contest free zone, then we can't start making exceptions based on the size of the contest. Or the intensity of the contest, either. A "laid back" contest may be less offensive to some than a killer contest, but who cares. It doesn't belong on 30m, or we're gonna have everyone. Remember, this doesn't have the force of FCC law. And gentleman's agreements aren't

enforceable unless there is pretty universal respect for them. Erode the respect, and down they come.

<But when the members of a small group like Norcal (fewer than 2000 members) want to sponsor a contest which runs 12-hours in length, I can't see what the big deal...

But, Alan it is a big deal. NorCal has no business putting its contest on a WARC band when everyone else is respecting the agreement. I am a member of NorCal. If it puts a contest on a WARC band, then, in my opinion it is making a mistake. Honestly, I thought it really was an unintentional error to list a 30m freq for the TTF.

<In addition, I personally believe there is no finer band for QRP contests than 30 meters, because 1) there is no SSB, 2) there is a power limitation for EVERYONE using the band, 3) the propagation characteristics are terrific and it seems to be open much of the time to somewhere or another!

Alan, 30m has been a "no trespassing" zone for contesters since its creation. It is no excuse to trespass that the property looked attractive to you. Besides, 20m is usually at least as good as 30m. We shouldn't be fishing there, even if there are only a few of us, and even if we use short poles.

72, es this is the kind of discussion we ought to be having. Gentlemen, ladies, and reasonable people may disagree.

Preston WJ2V

Flames not intended.... but better use of 30M during QRP operating events IS INTENDED.

Best 72/73 de alan

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>
Subject: [7924] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please

Message-ID: <199604301754.KAA24955@dancris.com>

At 12:31 PM 4/30/96 -0400, PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

>Hi guys,

>

>

>

>PS I think the above was said nicely and without rancor. If you disagree
>with the content, fine. Go ahead and say so. You gotta' right to your
>opinion. But keep your flames to yourself. I'm sensitive, especially when I
>am right. :-)

>

>

Your statement was reasonably put. An individual at our location was
listening on 30M and commented on the lack of contest activity. Turned out
he was unaware that there was a "gentlemen's agreement" that the WARC bands
not be used for contesting.

It is a haven....a nice place to hide from the roar of contesting.

72/73, de Roger, AA7qy

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>

Subject: [7925] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please

Message-ID: <199604301952.MAA25549@dancris.com>

At 11:50 AM 4/30/96 -0700, Alan Kaul wrote:

>I AGREE that the MAJOR contests should not be on the WARC Bands, but I

>DISAGREE when it comes to small groups ''doing their own thing.''

>

>Look at it this way: the weekend of the CQ WW, or the ARRL DX, or Field
>Day, or whatever, there must be a haven which is exempt from contests.

>Make that have the WARC bands. No problem.

>

That's why the WARC bands were allocated. I'll have to dig further, but the
agreement

isn't just between U.S. testers....as I recall, the agreement came about
as the IARU

worked to get the allocations, and is international.

Given the limited size of these bands compared to the "contesting" bands,

any contest
activity could have a severe impact on others. Once QRP'ers start if, then
the QRO
folks will surely follow, using the same "small group" justification. Let's
just not do it,
and not incur the wrath and disrespect of the others.

72/73, de Roger, AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [7934] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960430152035.19503C-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Preston,

I agree!

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....
....QRP-L #17....ARRL....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [7935] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960429215831.00aafa04@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Stan,

Who's talking about running 1500 watts PEP on 30 meter cw?

Only kidding guys. And if Joe wants to call CQ QRP TEST on 30 meters and
work the guy in the next tent over then that's up to him BUT he will get NO
points for the QRPTTF (QTTF, QPTTF, QRTTF) event - that's the REAL deterrent
if you are in to contesting - hi.

Now if he called CQ QRP TEST at 1500 watts PEP on cw as Stan suggests then
that just may be a little problem. Plus it will really screw up Chuck's
propagation reports royally. Is it time for Dayton weather reports yet

(PLEASE over on the dayton-1 list ONLY?

Caio and counting 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 10:24 4/30/96 -0700, you wrote:

>I agree it makes no difference if you run 1 microwatt or 1500 watts PEP,
>No contests on WARC bands.

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-----  
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |  
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |  
|                bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |  
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com |  
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [7939] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9604301600.A23774-0100000@netcom14>

Tnx ur note, Preston. I agree that we ought to be having these civilized kinds of discussions out in the public forum.

There has been a lot of talk about ''the gentlemen's agreement'' and even though it has been interpreted to be the prime reason that bands or frequencies ought to be avoided during contests, I think it has become the crutch that we lean on.

I suspect that if there was an agreement, it was some individual group like the IARU or ARRL or someone saying ''we recommend no contesting on the WARC bands'' and then the major contest sponsors going along with it--i.e. CQ Magazine becomes one of the gentlemen in agreement not to contest on the WARC bands. CQ decides. OK. Anyone entering a CQ sponsored contest cannot count WARC band QSO's toward his/her score. Still OK.

And so other groups of ''gentlemen'' go along with it. If ARRL or Norcal or any other contest sponsor decides to ''honor'' the agreement, then fine. Norcal -- or any organization -- should have the 30M choice as an organization. As does any other club, group, QSO party sponsor, etc. But what I don't like is when others insist that a group or an individual or anyone (even me) doesn't have the right to operate on a band in a legal manner of choice. Am I selfish? I think I'm no more selfish than those who would claim they have a right that the band must be contest-free.

Over the years, there has been a discussion as to whether or not pursuing DXCC is ''a contest.'' Purists argue that one should not be awarded a 30M DXCC because it violates the spirit of the WARC band. Spirit of the WARC band? If there's a spirit of any band, it is ''use it or lose it.''

Amateur Radio is not an absolute freedom, but within bounds, it represents some very important free choices. Chose to operate SSB or FM or CW, choose whether to chase DX or to RAGCHEW, or to be a contestor, or an experimenter. I'm not advocating you use FM on an Extra-class CW subband on 80M. I'm not advocating you violate any laws. But I am suggesting that contesters should have the same right to be on 30M as anyone else.

Flames not intended, that's just my opinion. 73/72 de alan

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [7940] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9604301739.A23774-0100000@netcom14>

Points well taken, Roger, but I think we ought to be figuring out ways to use frequencies and bands -- not to avoid using them. Yes, I don't want CQWW or ARRL madness on 30m, but on those contest weekends there's nary a frequency to be had on the regular 80-40-20-15-10 frequencies. But that's not likely to be the case of 30M during the 12-hours of Norcal QRP TTF.

73/72 de alan

PS -- I worked another Hightower (KI7MN) in the contest ... you couldn't be related, could you?

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996

From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>
Subject: [7942] Re: No contesting on WARC bands, please
Message-ID: <199605010147.SAA27609@dancris.com>

At 05:22 PM 4/30/96 -0700, Alan Kaul wrote:

>PS -- I worked another Hightower (KI7MN) in the contest ... you couldn't
>be related, could you?
>

Yep. That's my brother. Trying to get him upgraded to Extra by making him
take
part in CW contests, :-)

72/73, de Roger

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [7908] Re: No Zero Beat
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.830884283.4170.myers@bigboy>

> Why do some signals have no noticable zero beat on the 49'er and other
> direct conversion receivers?

I'm just guessing that these receivers have audio bandpass filters
after the mixer that severely attenuate the very low frequency
signal near zero beat. Even if a bandpass filter isn't explicitly
included, the circuit configuration could be doing this.

Dana
Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: prvalko <prvalko@oakland.edu>
Subject: [7914] Re: No Zero Beat
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960430134559.26938A-1000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 30 Apr 1996, Bob Cutter wrote:

> Why do some signals have no noticable zero beat on the 49'er and other

> direct conversion receivers?

This is T00 challenging to pass up!

EZ Answer : The other station is transmitting *slightly* outside of your tuning range.

Hmmm... how does one explain this simply....???

Letsee...

||-----||
7.038 7.040 7.042

There's the 49er "dial"

But because the 49er doesn't have "stops" on the dial, it's ACTUALLY a circle...

||-----||
7.038 7.040 7.042 7.040 7.038

If your Warden permits you to have scissors, you can cut this out and tape the ends (7.038) together if you'd like.

Now, for simplicity, lets take a station transmitting on 7.037.

A DC Receiver is going to hear him (insert_sexist_comment_here) Above and Below his "zero beat" freq of 7.037. YOUR 49er doesn't *quite* make it to that frequency! As you spin the tuning cap toward 7.038 the frequency shift gives you a lower sounding note, but NEVER quite to zero! Once you tune through 7.038, the receive signal begins to sound HIGHER as you tune UP and AWAY from him, the 49er now heading upwards to 7.040.

It goes without saying that this "phenomena" would also occur for a station transmitting slightly ABOVE 7.042!

How's that folks?

73! =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)

Subject: [7922] Re: No Zero Beat
Message-ID: <199604301924.NAA19206@lynx.csn.net>

Thank you so much for the great, clear example. I am sure that is the reason as my other DC receivers are also VXO and "circular". Your example of the signal going down but not to zero is right on. I have managed to work one station on this "flat spot" and I must have been on the correct(high) side of his signal, several other attempts have failed on this flat spot tuning.

72, Bob KI0G

>
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu (Steve Hideg)
Subject: [7894] Re: QRP Web Page
Message-ID: <v02130524adabd5c56ccf@[129.74.35.16]>

<<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/index.html>>

>I have lost the address fro the QRP Web Page. Could someone help, please?

>

>72, Bob KI0G

>QBF? ZUE

>

>Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

>

>KI0G

>

>bcutter@teal.csn.net

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of Information Technologies Telephone: (219) 631-3926

"I know Word 6 has its fans. I met both of them at Macworld Expo."
- David Pogue

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [7896] Re: QRP Web Page
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960430105430.17943B-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

> "I know Word 6 has its fans. I met both of them at Macworld Expo."
> - David Pogue
>
"What do I think about the Mac? I prefer Wendy's"
- Bill Gates

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>
Subject: [7912] Re: QRPTTF Notes
Message-ID: <199604301758.KAA24972@dancris.com>

At 10:24 AM 4/30/96 -0700, Bob Hightower wrote:

> Expect to make contact with anyone, anywhere. When HB1AC came in, I
wasn't
>expecting to work any DX, and when he gave his loc as PA, I assumed
>Pennsylvania.
>Wrong. I finally figured it out (it WAS cold up there!). First QRP DX, and a
>great
>thrill for me.
>

I'm sure you mean HP and not HB. HB is Switzerland, and is quite a catch
for QRP. Might want to correct your log.

73...Bud

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Apr 30 22:42:23 1996
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [7898] Re: TMPS
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.93.960430091614.15735B-100000@ume>

chuck said: "Stats only to be accumulated from 0000Z May 1, 1996 until
2400Z August 31,"

Too bad, guess you cannot count the short 30 m Qso with the JR1 station I
had at 0600 hrs UTC today! ;-) (Its ok, really!)
Several called, he came back to the " GK/QRP station only"
Sierra 1watt, inverted vee with apex 60 feet.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) MRO * VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor * NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary * "Power is no substitute for skill"